

**The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
Held in Bellsquarry Hall, Livingston
On Sunday 26th March 2017**

J. Hughes, Chairman	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
A. Hazzard, Secretary	Bo'ness
L.A. Riad, Treasurer	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
P. Hazzard Minute Secretary	Bo'ness
W. Dalziel	Craigmount Caledonia
A. Dalziel Vice Chairman	Craigmount Caledonia
V. McMorran	Glencorse
M. Binder	Stockbridge
S. Starr	Hawick
S. Easton	Wallacestone & District
D. Brand	Newtongrange
B. Watt	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia

Apologies: B. McMorran, S.Orr, M. O'Neill, I. Simpson, W. McCafferty, S. MacDonald, T. Thomson

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

The minutes of the meeting 26th February 2017 were approved by Hawick and Seconded by Craigmount Caledonia

Matters arising:

There were no matters arising.

Chairman's report:

Secretary's report:

Everything is going well with the indoors, we still have a few payments to come in and the Secretary will contact the bands concerned.

We have had an enquiry about the Edinburgh contest asking for details of the date and venue and what the entry fee for the public would be.

Treasurer's report:

The Treasurer gave her report and details are available from our secretary by request. There was a discussion about the branch funds and it was said that we would use a considerate amount of these funds with our proposed education coursed for this year.

Directors report:

The last Directors meeting was held just after the AGM, most of this meeting was taken up with allocating directors to various groups for the coming year.

The 42 day rule for higher to lower transfers was passed at the AGM and higher to lower transfers will be held for headquarters for 42 days to allow all necessary checks to be made. This Rule also covers all overseas bands who have also welcomed this change

Music Board report:

There have been some re-gradings which were mostly overseas bands.

Peoples Ford Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia have a new Novice Juvenile B band.

Burntisland have asked for their band to be regarded following some changes within the band.

Trophies:

All trophies for the indoor contest are now in and work is in hand for the Dunbar trophies.

Steward's report:

We will possibly require more Stewards for next year's indoor contest, we are running thin on the ground this year.

A question was raised regarding this year's stewards allocation sheets not being out yet. It was understood that HQ would be sending this out this week and our chairman will look into this.

Our chairman displayed one of the replacement adjudicator tents which will be trialled at Dunbar.

Education

John has spoken to Pat Wheelan regarding this year's workshops for Grade 4, Tenor Drummers, Bass Drummers and Drum Majors. Workshops run by the branch will be funded by the branch.

The branch officials will miss the workshop regarding protection of vulnerable people given by Pat Wheelan as it is on the same day as our Indoor Contest but Pat has agreed to come to our April meeting and will give a presentation then.

Indoor Contest

Everything is in place and the school will be prepared on the Friday night before the contest. Volunteers for this will be welcome.

Outdoor Contests

The Edinburgh contest in Princes Street Gardens has now been confirmed for Sunday the 18th June .

Discussions are ongoing with Bridge of Allan promoters as this is our first year organising this contest as a Branch.

All other branch contests are now agreed and everything is going well with the online entry system.

Wristbands will be purchased for the Drum Majors which will allow them entry to the venues prior to them putting on their uniforms, these will be issued at the registration tent and can be removed once the drum majors are in uniform, prior to the Drum Majors Dress.

AOCB

We will get permissions set up to allow the reporter to upload items to our news feeds but this will not allow access any parts of the site which is linked to RSPBA site

The Scottish Schools contest was a huge success once again and was well attended on the day, however there were some restrictions within the venue, so other venues are being explored.

There are still a few Branch bands who have not paid their RSPBA fees Ann will contact the bands concerned.

Meeting Closed 18.45
Next Meeting 30th April